

**REMARKS**

In Applicants' previous paper dated October 23, 2008, Applicants requested the cancellation of claims 2, 3, 6, 10, and 17 without prejudice or disclaimer, leaving claims 1, 4-5, 7-9, and 11-16 under examination and claims 18-28 withdrawn from consideration. In this paper, Applicants have added claims 29 and 30. When these claims have been entered, the claims under examination will be claims 1, 4-5, 7-9, 11-16, 29 and 30.

Support for new claim 29 is found throughout the specification [e.g., see WO 2005/000347 at p. 7, lines 1-3, which states that "[t]he degree of de-O-acetylation [that] is achieved by this process is complete, as measured by H-NMR spectroscopy. Optionally, the de-O-acetylated polysaccharide may be subjected to acid hydrolysis."].

Support for claim 30 is found in original claim 1, which specifies that "the degree of de-O-acetylation is greater than 80%". Support is also found in WO 2005/000347 at p. 8, lines 14-19, which recites a process for producing a group Y meningococcal polysaccharide fragment, the process comprising the steps of base hydrolysis of the polysaccharide, subsequent acid hydrolysis of the polysaccharide, and optionally re-N-acetylation of the polysaccharide. Additional support is found in WO 2005/000347 at original claim 3 and p. 9, lines 10-13, which collectively provide support for the claimed polysaccharide molecular weight range of "about 5 to about 150 kDa." Support is also found at Table 2 of WO 2005/000347, which describes an immunogenic conjugate molecule comprising O-acetyl negative group Y meningococcal polysaccharide covalently attached to tetanus toxoid.

Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added by these amendments.

**CONCLUSION**

In the event that the Examiner believes that issues exist that can be resolved by telephone conference, or that any formalities can be corrected by an Examiner's Amendment, a telephone call to the undersigned at (212) 827-4318 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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